

these two genuine patriots. I admire the work they do. They set a standard for the rest of us. I admire, especially, the manner with which they have managed this legislation. This has been one of the toughest jobs we have had in a long time. They have done it admirably. We owe them a debt of gratitude, not only for the work done but for the manner with which they have done it. I congratulate them both.

Mr. WARNER. I thank the distinguished minority leader very much for his words.

Mr. FRIST. I, too, congratulate both of the managers. It has been a long month. It has been 16 days, but since March 17 we actually started the bill. There was a lot in the background people did not see in terms of progress being made, setbacks along the way and negotiations and discussions, both inside each caucus as well as debate on the floor. It is a real privilege to be the leader of both managers and of both caucuses, working together to produce a bill that a few minutes ago we passed, a bill we can all be very proud of. I appreciate everyone's cooperation, participation, diligence, and focus throughout.

Mr. WARNER. I thank our distinguished majority leader, truly a very gracious soul and of pure heart.

Mr. FRIST. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. FRIST. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate now proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

CHANGE OF VOTE

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oregon.

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that my vote on amendment No. 3352 to S. 2400, rollcall No. 129, be changed to yea. I understand this will not change the outcome of the vote.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ACT OF 2003

Mr. SMITH. Mr. President, I today speak about the need for hate crimes legislation. On May 1, 2003, Senator KENNEDY and I introduced the Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act, a

bill that would add new categories to current hate crimes law, sending a signal that violence of any kind is unacceptable in our society.

In March 1999 in Decatur, IL, a university student was beaten by three men who allegedly made anti-gay remarks.

Government's first duty is to defend its citizens, to defend them against the harms that come out of hate. The Local Law Enforcement Enhancement Act is a symbol that can become substance. By passing this legislation and changing current law, we can change hearts and minds as well.

HONORING USCG COMMANDER TIMOTHY ALAN COOK

Mrs. MURRAY. Mr. President, I rise today to honor Commander Timothy Alan Cook for his service to the United States Senate and his continued service to our country in the United States Coast Guard.

Commander Cook has been detailed to be the Coast Guard Liaison to the United States Senate since July 2001, and I am proud to have had the opportunity to work closely with him over the past 3 years. In my leadership roles on the Transportation and Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittees, my staff and I have often relied on Commander Cook's tremendous grasp on the inner-workings of both the Coast Guard and the Senate.

Commander Cook began his Senate career in 1997 as the Coast Guard Fellow to the Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee, Oceans and Fisheries Subcommittee. However, his Coast Guard career began more than a decade earlier as a 1986 graduate of the U.S. Coast Guard Academy.

Then-Ensign Cook's first tour was as Deck Watch Officer aboard the Medium Endurance Cutter DAUNTLESS (WMEC 624) then stationed in Miami Beach, FL. In 1988 he became Executive Officer of the Fast Patrol Boat MANITOU (WPB 1302) also stationed in Miami Beach, FL.

He was selected for the Coast Guard Academy Postgraduate Instructor Program in 1990 and attended Duke University where he received his Master of Arts degree in Public Policy. CDR Cook taught U.S. History and American Government in the Coast Guard Academy Humanities Department from 1992 to 1995. During this period he also qualified as Deck Watch Officer on the Coast Guard Tall Ship EAGLE (WIX 327).

In 1995 he assumed Command of the Fast Patrol Boat MAUI (WPB 1304) stationed in Miami Beach, FL. During this time he also completed a Master of Arts degree in Political Science from Brown University.

Then, following his service at the Senate Commerce Committee, Commander Cook became Executive Officer of the Medium Endurance Cutter BEAR (WMEC 901) at the mid-point of its 106-day Mediterranean cruise. During his

tour he completed numerous patrols in the Caribbean conducting the Coast Guard law enforcement and search and rescue missions.

This week, Commander Cook will leave his post as the Coast Guard's Senate Liaison. He will be missed in the United States Senate, but the Coast Guard needs his expertise on the Deepwater Acquisition Program.

It has been my pleasure to work with Commander Cook. On behalf of the Senators and staff who have also been fortunate to work with him, I wish Commander Cook, his wife Nancy and their two sons, Evan and Joel, the best in all of their future endeavors.

RHODE ISLAND VETERANS POST OFFICE BUILDING

Mr. REED. Mr. President, I am pleased that the Senate passed legislation, H.R. 3942, earlier this month to redesignate the U.S. Post Office in Middletown the "Rhode Island Veterans Post Office Building," and I thank Congressman PATRICK KENNEDY for introducing this important legislation in the House of Representatives. I recognize the important contributions and sacrifices that our military veterans have made for our country. The celebration of the 60th anniversary of the D-Day invasion at Normandy this month again highlighted the great sacrifices that our brave soldiers have made, and continue to make today in Afghanistan, Iraq and throughout the world. I am proud to support naming the U.S. Post Office in Middletown in their honor.

LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS SAFETY ACT

Mr. LEAHY. Mr. President, I am pleased to note the House passage today of the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act, H.R. 218, by voice vote. This action has been a long time in coming. Representative RANDY "DUKE" CUNNINGHAM has been tirelessly working for over a decade to push this legislation and I commend him for his dedication to making our communities safer and providing better protection for our law enforcement personnel. I ask that the Senate follow suit and quickly take up and pass the House bill.

Law enforcement officers are never "off duty." They are dedicated public servants trained to uphold the law and keep the peace. To enable law enforcement officers nationwide to be prepared to answer a call to duty no matter where, when or in what form it comes, I am proud to join Senator CAMPBELL—my good friend and a knowledgeable Senate leader on law enforcement issues—and 69 other cosponsors, including Judiciary Chairman HATCH, Democratic Leader DASCHLE, Assistant Democratic Leader REID, Majority Leader FRIST and Assistant Majority Leader MCCONNELL, on the Senate version of the Law Enforcement Officers Safety Act, S. 253,